

(1) the ancestors of today's Native Peoples inhabited the land of the present-day United States since time immemorial and for thousands of years before the arrival of people of European descent;

(2) the Native Peoples have for millennia honored, protected, and stewarded this land we cherish;

(3) the Native Peoples are spiritual peoples with a deep and abiding belief in the Creator, and for millennia their people have maintained a powerful spiritual connection to this land, as is evidenced by their customs and legends;

(4) the arrival of Europeans in North America opened a new chapter in the histories of the Native Peoples;

(5) while establishment of permanent European settlements in North America did stir conflict with nearby Indian tribes, peaceful and mutually beneficial interactions also took place;

(6) the foundational English settlements in Jamestown, Virginia, and Plymouth, Massachusetts, owed their survival in large measure to the compassion and aid of the Native Peoples in their vicinities;

(7) in the infancy of the United States, the founders of the Republic expressed their desire for a just relationship with the Indian tribes, as evidenced by the Northwest Ordinance enacted by Congress in 1787, which begins with the phrase, "The utmost good faith shall always be observed toward the Indians";

(8) Indian tribes provided great assistance to the fledgling Republic as it strengthened and grew, including invaluable help to Meriwether Lewis and William Clark on their epic journey from St. Louis, Missouri, to the Pacific Coast;

(9) Native Peoples and non-Native settlers engaged in numerous armed conflicts;

(10) the United States Government violated many of the treaties ratified by Congress and other diplomatic agreements with Indian tribes;

(11) this Nation should address the broken treaties and many of the more ill-conceived Federal policies that followed, such as extermination, termination, forced removal and relocation, the outlawing of traditional religions, and the destruction of sacred places;

(12) the United States forced Indian tribes and their citizens to move away from their traditional homelands and onto federally established and controlled reservations, in accordance with such Acts as the Act of May 28, 1830 (4 Stat. 411, chapter 148) (commonly known as the "Indian Removal Act");

(13) many Native Peoples suffered and perished—

(A) during the execution of the official United States Government policy of forced removal, including the infamous Trail of Tears and Long Walk;

(B) during bloody armed confrontations and massacres, such as the Sand Creek Massacre in 1864 and the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890; and

(C) on numerous Indian reservations;

(14) the United States Government condemned the traditions, beliefs, and customs of the Native Peoples and endeavored to assimilate them by such policies as the redistribution of land under the Act of February 8, 1887 (25 U.S.C. 331; 24 Stat. 388, chapter 119) (also known as the "General Allotment Act"), and the forcible removal of Native children from their families to faraway boarding schools where their Native practices and languages were degraded and forbidden;

(15) officials of the United States Government and private United States citizens harmed Native Peoples by the unlawful acquisition of recognized tribal land and the

theft of tribal resources and assets from recognized tribal land;

(16) the policies of the United States Government toward Indian tribes and the breaking of covenants with Indian tribes have contributed to the severe social ills and economic troubles in many Native communities today;

(17) despite the wrongs committed against Native Peoples by the United States, the Native Peoples have remained committed to the protection of this great land, as evidenced by the fact that, on a per capita basis, more Native people have served in the United States Armed Forces and placed themselves in harm's way in defense of the United States in every major military conflict than any other ethnic group;

(18) Indian tribes have actively influenced the public life of the United States by continued cooperation with Congress and the Department of the Interior, through the involvement of Native individuals in official United States Government positions, and by leadership of their own sovereign Indian tribes;

(19) Indian tribes are resilient and determined to preserve, develop, and transmit to future generations their unique cultural identities;

(20) the National Museum of the American Indian was established in the Smithsonian Institution as a living memorial to the Native Peoples and their traditions; and

(21) Native Peoples are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, and that among those are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

(b) ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND APOLOGY.—The United States, acting through Congress—

(1) recognizes the special legal and political relationship the Indian tribes have with the United States and the solemn covenant with the land we share;

(2) commends and honors the Native Peoples for the thousands of years that they have stewarded and protected this land;

(3) recognizes that there have been years of official depredations, ill-conceived policies, and the breaking of covenants by the United States Government regarding Indian tribes;

(4) apologizes on behalf of the people of the United States to all Native Peoples for the many instances of violence, maltreatment, and neglect inflicted on Native Peoples by citizens of the United States;

(5) expresses its regret for the ramifications of former wrongs and its commitment to build on the positive relationships of the past and present to move toward a brighter future where all the people of this land live reconciled as brothers and sisters, and harmoniously steward and protect this land together;

(6) urges the President to acknowledge the wrongs of the United States against Indian tribes in the history of the United States in order to bring healing to this land by providing a proper foundation for reconciliation between the United States and Indian tribes; and

(7) commends the State governments that have begun reconciliation efforts with recognized Indian tribes located in their boundaries and encourages all State governments similarly to work toward reconciling relationships with Indian tribes within their boundaries.

(c) DISCLAIMER.—Nothing in this section—

(1) authorizes or supports any claim against the United States; or

(2) serves as a settlement of any claim against the United States.

SA 1881. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1042, to authorize ap-

propriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 378, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

SEC. 3114. SMALL AND RENEWABLE POWER CONTRACTS.

Section 501(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) PUBLIC UTILITY CONTRACTS.—

“(i) TERM.—A contract for public utility services may be made for a period of not more than 20 years.

“(ii) DEFINITION OF PUBLIC UTILITY ELECTRIC SERVICES.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘public utility services’, with respect to electricity services, includes electricity supplies and services, including transmission, generation, distribution, and other services directly used in providing electricity.”.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Wednesday, September 28, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an oversight hearing on Indian Housing.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2005 at 3 p.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1025, to amend the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the construction of the Cheney division, Wichita Federal reclamation project, Kansas, and for other purposes” to authorize the Equus Beds Division of the Wichita Project; S. 1498, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution facilities to the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District; S. 1529, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the city of Yuma, Arizona; S. 1578, to reauthorize the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin endangered fish recovery implementation programs; and S. 1760, to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the Rogue River Valley Irrigation District or within the Medford Irrigation District, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those

wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Kellie Donnelly 202-224-9360 or Shannon Ewan at 202-224-7555.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2005 at 10 a.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive an update on Hurricanes Katrina and Rita's effects on energy infrastructure and the status of recovery efforts in the Gulf Coast region.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

I would also like to announce that the hearing to evaluate and receive a status report on the Environmental Management programs of the Department of Energy which was previously scheduled before the Committee for this date and time has been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date.

For further information, please contact Lisa Epifani 202-224-5269 or Shannon Ewan at 202-224-7555.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO
MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, September 28, 2005, at 10 a.m., on S. 1114—Professional Athletes Drug Testing bill and S. 1334—Professional Sports Integrity and Accountability Act, in Hart 216.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 28, at 11:30 a.m. to consider pending calendar business.

Agenda

Agenda Item 3: S. 166—To amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the

Deschutes River Conservancy, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 4: S. 206—To designate the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 5: S. 213—To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Rio Arriba County, NM.

Agenda Item 6: S. 242—To establish four memorials to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* in the State of Texas.

Agenda Item 7: S. 251—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a water resource feasibility study for the Little Butte/Bear Creek Sub-basins in Oregon.

Agenda Item 8: S. 592—To extend the contract for the Glendo Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project in the State of Wyoming.

Agenda Item 9: S. 652—To provide financial assistance for the rehabilitation of the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial in Philadelphia, PA, and the development of an exhibit to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin.

Agenda Item 11: S. 761—To rename the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in the State of Idaho as the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in honor of the late Morley Nelson, an international authority on birds of prey, who was instrumental in the establishment of this National Conservation Area, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 12: S. 777—To designate Catoctin Mountain Park in the State of Maryland as the "Catoctin Mountain National Recreation Area," and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 13: S. 819—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to reallocate costs of the Pactola Dam and Reservoir, SD, to reflect increased demands for municipal, industrial, and fish and wildlife purposes.

Agenda Item 14: S. 891—To extend the water service contract for the Ainsworth Unit, Sandhills Division, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, NE.

Agenda Item 15: S. 895—To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a rural water supply program in the Reclamation States to provide a clean, safe, affordable, and reliable water supply to rural residents.

Agenda Item 16: S. 955—To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including in the National Park System certain sites in Williamson County, TN, relating to the Battle of Franklin.

Agenda Item 17: S. 958—To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Star-Spangled Banner Trail in the States of Maryland and Virginia and the District of Columbia as a National Historic Trail.

Agenda Item 18: S. 1154—To extend the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission, to provide improved visitor services at the park, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 19: S. 1170—To establish the Fort Stanton-Snowy River National Cave Conservation Area.

Agenda Item 20: S. 1238—To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to provide for the conduct of projects that protect forests, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 21: S. 1338—To require the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey, to conduct a study on groundwater resources in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 23: H.R. 126—To amend Public Law 89-366 to allow for an adjustment in the number of free roaming horses permitted in Cape Lookout National Seashore.

Agenda Item 24: H.R. 409—To provide for the exchange of land within the Sierra National Forest, CA, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item 26: H.R. 539—To designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Agenda Item 27: H.R. 584—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to recruit volunteers to assist with, or facilitate, the activities of various agencies and offices of the Department of the Interior.

Agenda Item 28: H.R. 606—To authorize appropriations to the Secretary of the Interior for the restoration of the Angel Island Immigration Station in the State of California.

Agenda Item 29: H.R. 1101—To revoke a Public Land Order with respect to certain lands erroneously included in the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, CA.

Agenda Item 30: H.R. 2362—To reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

In addition, the Committee may turn to any other measures that are ready for consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC
WORKS

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet Wednesday, September 28, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing to discuss the role of science in environmental policy making.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Wednesday, September 28, 2005, at 10 a.m., to hear testimony on "Hurricane Katrina: Community Rebuilding Needs and Effectiveness of Past Proposals."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on